

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
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 ICHIMURA et al. )  
 )  
 Application Number: To be Assigned )  
 )  
 Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
 )  
 For: MR (MAGNETORESISTANCE) DEVICE AND )  
 MAGNETIC RECORDING DEVICE )  
 )  
 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0158 )

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claims in order to correct improper claims in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: